GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:936
ANSWERED ON:23.10.2008
MAJOR CIVILIAN PLANE ACCIDENTS
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of major civil plane accidents occurred in the country during the last sixth months;

(b) the number of passengers killed and injured as a result thereof alongwith loss of properties suffered, accident - wise;

(c) the compensation relief paid to the next of kin of the victims;

(d) whether any Committee has been appointed by the Government to examine causes of such accidents;

(e) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to avert such accidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) and (b):- There have been two accidents to Indian Civil Registered aircraft in last six months. In the first one a Bell 430 helicopter operated by M/s. Ran Air on 03.08.2008 went missing during flight from Hyderabad - Jagdalpur - Raipur in which 4 persons were on board. In the other case a Cessna 152 aircraft operated by M/s. Andhra Pradesh Aviation Academy crashed immediately after take off on 08.09.2008 in which 02 persons died.

(c):- Compensation, if any, is paid by the Operators. Government does not maintain any record regarding compensation paid to the passengers.

(d) and (e):- Both the accidents are under investigation by Inspector of accidents appointed under Rule 71 of Aircraft Rules, 1937.

(f):- To avoid air accidents, various accident prevention programmes have been initiated by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Safety audits, surveillance inspections etc. are carried out to find out hazards in the operations/ engineering departments of the operator. Corrective action is taken to eliminate or reduce the hazards. Safety management system is being introduced with all service providers. Safety Recommendations emanating from the investigations are followed up by Directorate General of Civil Aviation for implementation by the concerned units to prevent recurrence of such accidents. Inspite of tremendous increase in Passenger Traffic and number of Aircraft during the last few years, aircraft accident rate has come down due to various safety measures undertaken.